



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### RAIL SAFETY WEEK

- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia supports the implementation of highway-rail grade crossings and the establishment of pedestrian safety programs; and
- WHEREAS: In 2016, highway-rail grade crossing incidents in Georgia resulted in 99 collisions, six deaths and 29 injuries; and
- WHEREAS: Last year, pedestrian rail trespass incidents in Georgia resulted in 19 deaths and 16 injuries; and
- WHEREAS: Highway-rail grade crossing crashes are more severe than highway collisions and are more likely to result in death or injury; and
- WHEREAS: Increased public awareness of the dangers of railroad crossings and adjacent property, as well as related safety laws, are necessary to prevent future collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians; and
- WHEREAS: Operation Lifesaver is the foremost public information and education program dedicated to preventing highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian rail trespassing incidents; and
- WHEREAS: On September 24-30, 2017, and throughout the year, all citizens are encouraged to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians near tracks or trains. During Rail Safety Week, Georgians are encouraged to participate in activities designed to increase rail safety awareness and reduce the number of incidents related to railroads; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim September 24-30, 2017, as RAIL SAFETY WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF